

## HEAT TREATMENT METHOD AND APPARATUS USED THEREFOR

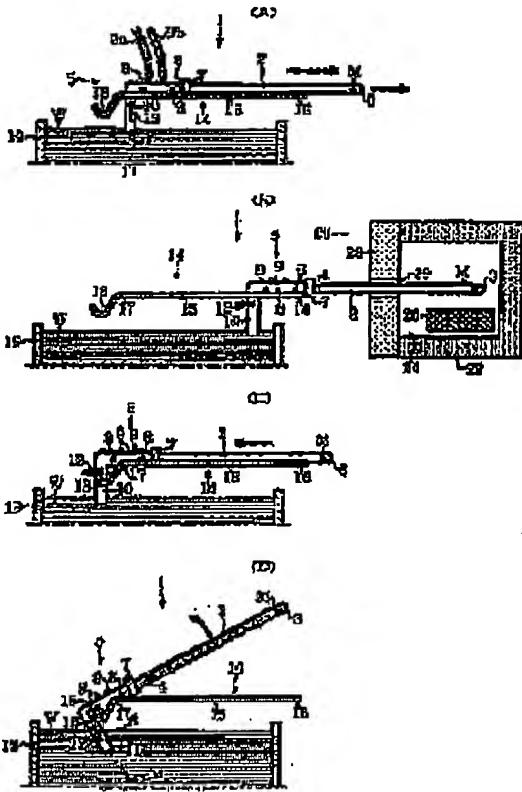
**Patent number:** JP2002249821  
**Publication date:** 2002-09-06  
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**Classification:**  
 - International: C21D1/74; C21D1/18; C22C14/00; C22F1/00; C22F1/18  
 - European:  
**Application number:** JP20010047637 20010223  
**Priority number(s):** JP20010047637 20010223

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### Abstract of JP2002249821

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To provide a heat treatment method capable of continuously performing the heating and quenching of a work in a short time in a vacuum condition, and a heat treatment apparatus used therefor.

**SOLUTION:** This heat treatment method includes a step of heating a quartz tube 2 which is kept in a vacuum or inert gas atmosphere with a work M sealed therein, a step of transferring the work M heated to the predetermined temperature into water (cooling medium) W and hardening it therein. The heat treatment device 1 includes the quartz tube 2 which receives the work M and keeps the inside of the tube in a vacuum or inert gas atmosphere, a guide and tilting means comprising a guide pin 8 and a guide rail 14 which can bring close and detach this quartz tube 2 to/from a heat treatment furnace (heating source) 20, and tilt the quartz tube 2 along the vertical direction when detached from the heat treatment furnace 20, and a water tank (a cooling medium accommodation part) 19.



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